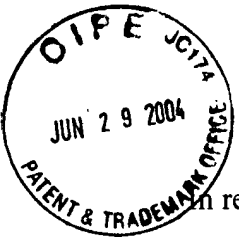


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

: **Confirmation No. 9095**

Hidehisa ASADA et al. :

Docket No. 2000_0259A

Serial No. 09/508,435

: Group Art Unit 1644

Filed March 13, 2000

: Examiner Patrick J. Nolan

IMMUNOASSAY FOR BNP

RESPONSE UNDER 37. CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1644

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action dated April 21, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows: